Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A television set-top terminal with software, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer program code means; and

means for executing said computer program code means to implement a layered software architecture wherein:

an application layer allows a user to interact with the terminal;

a middleware layer supports the application layer by providing Application Program Interfaces (APIs);

an operating system layer supports the middleware layer;

a hardware layer supports the operating system layer; and

said layered software architecture allows configuration of a functionality of the application layer and the middleware layer independently of the operating system layer and the hardware layer.

2. (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

the layered software architecture includes a set top management layer that supports the application layer by configuring management services of the terminal.

3. (Original) The terminal of claim 2, wherein:

said management services include at least one of application, user, resource and presentation management.

4. (Original) The terminal of claim 2, wherein:

the set top management layer implements a state information module to designate states of

resources of the terminal.

5. (Original) The terminal of claim 4, wherein:

said state information module is based on the ITU-T X.731 standard.

6. (Original) The terminal of claim 1, further comprising:

an application program interface (API) for providing a configurable functionality.

7. (Original) The terminal of claim 6, wherein:

said API enables said terminal to support multiple users.

8. (Original) The terminal of claim 6, wherein:

said API enables said terminal to secure controlled access of resources.

9. (Currently amended) The terminal of claim 6, wherein:

~~wherein~~ said API enables said terminal to download, register, start, stop, and monitor applications of the applications layer.

10. (Original) The terminal of claim 6, wherein:

said API enables said terminal to manage audio, video and/or other data presentations.

11. (Original) The terminal of claim 1, further comprising at least one of:

a set top manager;

a presentation manager;

an application manager;

a user manager;

a resource manager;

a set top agent; and

a program view assistant.

12. (Original) A method for implementing a layered software architecture for a television set-top terminal, comprising the steps of:

providing a computer readable medium having computer program code means; and

executing said computer program code means to implement a layered software architecture wherein:

an application layer allows a user to interact with the terminal;

a middleware layer supports the application layer by providing Application Program Interfaces (APIs);

an operating system layer supports the middleware layer;

a hardware layer supports the operating system layer; and

said layered software architecture allows configuration of a functionality of the application layer and the middleware layer independently of the operating system layer and the hardware layer.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein:

the layered software architecture includes a set top management layer that supports the application layer by configuring management services of the ~~method~~ terminal.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein:

said management services include at least one of application, user, resource and presentation management.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein:

the set top management layer implements a state information module to designate states of resources of the ~~method~~ terminal.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein:

said state information module is based on the ITU-T X.731 standard.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein:

said layered software architecture provides an application program interface (API) for providing a configurable functionality.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein:

said API enables support of multiple users.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein:

said API enables secure controlled access of resources.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein:

said API enables downloading, registering, starting, stopping, and monitoring of applications of the applications layer.

21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein:

said API enables managing of audio, video and/or other data presentations.

22. (Original) The method of claim 12, where in said layered software architecture provides at least one of:

a set top manager;

a presentation manager;

an application manager;

a user manager;

a resource manager;

a set top agent; and

a program view assistant.